

Report of Committees

Appointed by the Young Men's Club.

Last Wednesday evening saw the Young Men's Club assembled to hear the reports of the committees appointed last week to interview prospective buyers and renters and builders and to determine upon the method of organization of a stock company formed to promote the building of more homes in Big Stone Gap.

Only a few were present, but that made the discussions which followed upon the several reports more intimate and personal than would have been the case in a larger gathering.

H. E. Fox in reporting the results of the investigations of his committee gave the following as parties agreeing to build: R. T. Irvine, C. S. Carter, A. L. Whit, W. J. Smith, W. J. Horsley, E. F. Burgess, W. G. Couths, G. C. Honeycutt, J. H. Catron, J. A. Gilmer, E. A. Harner, J. B. Wampler, R. B. Allover, J. B. Collier, C. L. Kelly, C. L. Hamblen, J. G. Muney, Zion Parsons, D. C. Wolfe and P. M. Rensor.

Wm. A. Stuart, in reporting the findings of his committee with regard to the formation of a stock company to promote the building of more homes in Big Stone Gap elicited considerable discussion from those present. Owing to the fact that this committee had not been able to get together during the week to discuss the matter and give the plan its fullest consideration, the suggestions were adopted tentatively to a more fuller and complete report at the next meeting.

W. J. Smith, reporting for his committee, gave six men as wanting to rent or buy reasonable homes in Big Stone Gap. All those wishing to buy or rent are asked to write personally to Mr. Smith as chairman of this committee.

All three committees were voted to be continued on at least until the next meeting of the Club, and it was thought best that Mr. Fox's and Mr. Smith's be continued indefinitely, to assist in securing the most effective co-operation among all who are interested in securing more homes in Big Stone Gap.

This, the most business-like of all the meetings, was adjourned at 9.45, and everyone left with a feeling that at last had been launched the most effective movement Big Stone Gap has seen in years.

Messrs. J. M. McLemore, M. D. Collier and H. L. Sulfridge, Appalachia, Virginia

Gentlemen:

Replying to your letter of January 5th, beg to submit the following facts and figures as to Tax Values of my District when I was made Commissioner of the Revenue, and of the same District for the year 1918.

Personal Property assessed by W. C. Stewart for the year 1918	\$4,120,922.00	
" " " " W. H. Fletcher for the year 1915	\$1,857,974.00	Increase 1918 over 1915 \$2,262,948.00
Mineral land assessed by Morton Mayree and W. C. Stewart for the year 1918	\$6,112,260.00	
Mineral land assessed by J. A. Stone and W. H. Fletcher for the year 1915	\$5,470,260.00	Increase 1918 over 1915 642,000.00
Total increase \$2,904,948.00		
Non Mineral Land, Richmond District, for 1915	\$ 693,420.00	
" " " " Assessed by W. J. Horsley, 1915	970,607.00	Increase 1918 over 1915 22,813
License Taxes reported by W. C. Stewart 1918	\$ 19,144.63	
" " " " W. H. Fletcher, 1915	8,302.50	Increase 1918 over 1915 10,842.13

As to Merchants' Capital, Bank Stock, Dogs Assessed, I am unable to give this statement as the Records at the Court House fail to show what they were in 1915.

I do not mean to state by any means that the figures are a fair cash value of the property of my District, but from what I can find out Wise County is taxed along in line with other counties over the State. I was creditably informed the other day that Wise County paid more taxes than any county in the State of Virginia, in proportion to its wealth.

As to some false rumors being circulated over the country, I invite the public to an examination of the records. Yours very truly,

W. C. STEWART,

Commissioner of the Revenue, Wise County, Virginia, Western District.

East Stone Gap, Virginia, January 16th, 1918

Check Forger Arrested

For Cashing Bogus Checks and Makes Confession

Hack Fisher, a young man about twenty-two years of age, living near Orton, was arrested at Olinger last Friday night by W. E. Yeary on a charge of forging checks in Big Stone Gap and neighboring towns, from which he had derived quite a sum of money. He was brought here the same night and placed in charge of Policeman Kelly and locked up. Upon arriving here he denied his identity, stating that he was not the party wanted, but after a search through his clothes a check was found already filled out, drawn on the First National Bank of Appalachia, made payable to W. C. Taylor and signed with the forged name of E. L. Cousins. Upon this discovery the prisoner made a complete confession to every charge.

Saturday he was given a hearing before Mayor Horsley and later taken to jail at Wise to await the next term of court.

His work was perhaps the boldest and most successful ever attempted here. He came here about two weeks ago and started his scheme by purchasing a large quantity of meat of J. W. Hiseh. Having a check made out with the forged name of W. R. Peters signed to it, at a figure of \$14.89 above the amount of the purchase, the check was cashed by Mr. Hiseh and Fisher left saying that he would return for the meat later, but of course he never returned. The same trick was worked on Hamblen Bros. for \$26.00, D. C. Wolfe for \$20.00, Goodloe Brothers, W. E. Yeary, of Olinger, \$16.00, and a merchant in Turkey Cove by the name of Blair for \$25.00.

W. R. Peters and E. L. Cousins, whose names were forged to the checks, are well known local business men.

In order to throw the police off his movements Fisher carried

a suit case containing several changes of clothing. At one time he would appear in a dirty overall suit, a soldier's uniform, or in a nice suit of citizen clothes.

Public School

In spite of the heavy handicap, due to the influenza epidemic, the Big Stone Gap school board has never for a moment relinquished the firm purpose to afford the children of this community a full session of nine months.

In order to accomplish this purpose means had to be devised for making up the days lost. This is being done in part by teaching on alternate Saturdays; by this means the full nine months session could be attained by June 30th. In order not to run through the whole month of June the school board has decided in addition to teaching on alternate Saturdays, to lengthen each school day by thirty minutes. This will enable the school to make up the full session by June 10-13.

By this plan children will arrive at school five minutes earlier in the morning, at 7.45 (Central Time), have lunch at 11.40 to 12.40 instead of 11.30 to 12.30, get out of school at 2.55 instead of 2.30. In this way 12 1/2 per cent. can be added to each recitation period and accordingly about the same per cent. deducted from the number of school days taught.

This plan will be put into effect to-morrow, Thursday, January 23rd. It is believed that it will meet with the approval of the community, and the hearty support and co-operation of parents and pupils is asked in getting the changed schedule to running smoothly.

An Appeal

An appeal is made to the housekeepers of Big Stone Gap for old linen, towels, sheets, pillow-slips to use for the sick. Old wrappers, bed shirts, blankets, comforts, a hot water bottle or anything you may have that will make a sick person more comfortable. It means much to the influenza committee to have these things so necessary in the sick room. Please send your contribution to the Home Service office in the post-office building or 'phone your name to 220 or 62 and some one will call for your bundle. Minnie C. Fox, Chr. Influenza Com.

FOR SALE—QUICK.

Six room house in Big Stone Gap, good location, modern conveniences. Will be sold at the right price if sold within thirty days. R. C. Williams, Box 25 Big Stone Gap, Va.

If we are to conserve on meat during 1919, suppose we begin by dispensing with pork barrel legislation.

Returning Nurses

Will Be Needed In Reconstruction In This Country

Washington, January 18.—If there is a problem about what to do with the returning soldier, there is none about the returning nurse.

The only problem is how can the nurses who have finished their military service in hospitals and cantonments and at the front be diverted into the other grand national service which waits for them.

Reconstruction in this country, judging by the activities of the Government departments in Washington, is to be attacked first from the public health standpoint, and no national public health program, according to health authorities, can be successfully carried out unless the number of public health nurses is immediately and very greatly increased.

Surgeon General Rupert Blue, head of the United States Public Health Service, which was one of the first departments in the field with a reconstructive program, stated recently that there should be a public health nurse at work in every county. Secretary of War Baker says that "the public health nurse, one of the greatest forces in promoting national health, is greatly needed in increased numbers."

Secretary of Labor Wilson states "Labor's reconstruction program must include a carefully formulated program for repairing the physical waste and destruction of war by the conservation and renewal of national health." Public health nurses enter into such a program in many ways, in industrial, visiting, and infant welfare service. To bring every worker in our country this skilled care, many more public health nurses must be put to work in the community.

To meet the demand for more public health nurses the National Organization of Public Health Nursing, of which Miss Agnes D. Randolph, 1110 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va., is the representative, in this state, decided at a recent convention in Chicago on two plans, one to fill the immediate need and the other for future requirements.

To enable nurses returning from military service to take courses in public health service and enter at once into this work, it was voted to raise a consider-

able fund of money for scholarships in 1919 reaching, if possible, a hundred thousand; these scholarships to be given to nurses returning from military service, to members of the senior classes in training schools, and to any other nurses desiring to take up public health work.

To create a supply of nurses in the future, it is proposed, in co-operation with the National League of Nursing Education, to revise the training courses in hospitals in order that public health work may be included in the undergraduate courses.

In carrying out this program, the National Organization calls for the support not only of women in the nursing profession but of all of those interested in public health as a factor in social betterment and reconstruction.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED

At the January meeting of the United Daughters of the Confederacy the following committees were appointed by the president:

Finance.—Mrs. H. A. W. Skoen, Mrs. McCormick, Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Pettit.

Educational.—Mrs. E. E. Goodloe, Mrs. L. O. Pettit and Mrs. Malcom Smith.

Relief.—Mrs. Geo. Taylor, Mrs. J. L. McCormick and Mrs. C. C. Long.

Memorial.—Mrs. Cochran, Mrs. J. W. Kelly and Miss Edna Gilly.

Membership.—Mrs. D. C. Wolfe, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Hagy, Mrs. Beverly, Mrs. J. P. Wolfe.

Music.—Mrs. W. T. Goodloe, Mrs. Alexander and Miss Nemo Vineyard.

Will each member please send her ten cents to the Robert E. Lee Cot Fund to treasurer, Mrs. C. C. Long, as this fund must reach headquarters at once.

Mrs. J. B. Wampler, Recording Secretary.

John J. Pershing

The Supreme Hero Of The American Forces In France.

The grandson of French seafarers of liberty; the son of a pioneer of the Wilderness and of a Tennessee mother. He won his education in the midst of struggles, and used it to help his impoverished parents and to earn his appointment to West Point. He rose by brilliant acts of military genius against the Indians in the Southwest; against the Spaniards in Cuba; against the Moros in the Philippines. He with splendid credit as the military attaché of our Embassy in Japan and on the Army General Staff in Washington. He surrendered to Cupid and stood up against the most terrible of personal sorrows. He was destined by fate to gain knowledge, to face pain, to learn life and men under every condition, so that he could command an army, the like of which no America ever led, against the most barbarous and powerful foe the world has ever known and gain a victory, lasting glorious for his country and for humanity.

This is what is shown in the inspiring of photoplay of life and history that William Fox has named "The Lord of the Free."—Amazun to day.

Many Sections Now in Need of Doctors.

Richmond, Jan. 20.—All told the State Board of Health has received about 125 letters from persons in various communities which now are sadly in need of permanently located doctors. Most of the writers are residents of towns, villages or thrifty rural communities and they indicate that the physician who settles in their neighborhoods will have fine opportunities for success.

It goes without saying that the State Board of Health will do all in its power to assist in meeting this shortage of doctors—a condition due at least in part to the recent demand for physicians in the army. In the course of the next few weeks many doctors now in the service will receive their discharges. Those who have made no definite plans for the future would do well to communicate with the State Board of Health the Commissioner will gladly furnish them with information as to the communities needing doctors. To judge by the letters already on the nearly all sections of Virginia have openings which offer fine opportunities.

Many activities ceased with the war, but the Red Cross stays on the job.

(Build more homes).

QUESTIONS.

- Are you being of any service to your town?
- What have you done in the past year to benefit other people?
- Do you go to church?
- If not, why not?
- Do you ever go to see newcomers apart from any feeling of social obligation?
- How many new friends have you made lately?
- Do you make your own home the center of the universe?
- How much have you gossiped lately, and did it do others any good?
- Why are you interested in other people's business?
- Did you ever think that perhaps there were other people in the world besides yourself?

—Quiz.

SLACKERS!

- Anyone who doesn't read his home paper.
- Anyone who thinks the Young Men's Club doesn't mean business.
- The man who won't give his time or his money to promote the best interests of his town.
- The man who says one thing and means another.
- The man who won't look you in the eye because he has something to conceal.
- The man who is after his own paltry penny profits at other people's expense.
- The housekeeper who doesn't patronize home trade and business.
- Anybody who forgets that he owes God service every day of his life.
- Anybody that refuses to go to church for one reason and stays away all the time for every other reason than the one stated.

—Explosive.